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### International Farm Youth Exchange

Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

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# Farm Youth

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Agricultural Extension Service  
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# International Farm Youth Exchange

## IFYE—What Is It?

The International Farm Youth Exchange — a project for young people from farms in the U. S. to live and work on farms in other countries, and for farm youth from those countries to come here and observe rural life. Those who go to other countries are called “outbound” delegates, while those who come to the United States are called “inbound” exchangees.

## How the Program Works

There are three phases to the program, depending on the part of the world to which the delegate is sent: Fall, August to December; Winter, October to April; Summer, June to November.

## The Program

The program for outbound delegates can best be illustrated by the experience of a typical delegate which includes:

- \* preparation and training at home through use of language and reference materials
- \* intensive orientation before departure (usually in Washington, D. C.)
- \* trans-ocean passage by ship or plane, usually with a group; some orientation enroute
- \* reception and program in foreign country planned and supervised by U. S. agricultural attache in cooperation with the host country
- \* living and working with 2 to 10 farm families in one country four to six months
- \* attending church, youth meetings, exhibitions and rural affairs with host family
- \* returning by ship or plane, usually with a group
- \* evaluation of experiences
- \* reporting to the public—an intensive period of reporting to the people at home on his or her observances of the problems and way of life of the people in the country visited. This involves talks, radio broadcasts and news articles.

## Who Can Be an IFYE in South Dakota

Any rural young person can apply for the opportunity to become a “Grassroots Ambassador” to another country . . . if he or she meets the following qualifications:

- \* 20 to 30 years of age
- \* high school graduate

- \* not married
- \* mature personality
- \* reared on a farm and knows its life and work
- \* experience with rural youth organizations
- \* eager to understand other people
- \* able to speak the language if going to a non-English speaking country, or willing to learn the language of the host country.

## Applications

Applications are secured from and submitted through the County Extension Agent. A state IFYE committee selects the state candidates and submits their applications to the National 4-H Club Foundation where final selection and placement is made, keeping in mind the interests and background of individuals and countries concerned.

## The Cost of IFYE

The financial obligations of this project are met by voluntary contributions to the National 4-H Club Foundation and to state IFYE funds through the State Extension Service. No government money is used.

The success of this program depends upon the support of those interested in furthering an understanding between rural people everywhere.

Those who contribute to IFYE in South Dakota include:

- \* 4-H Clubs
- \* Rural Youth organizations
- \* State 4-H Leaders association
- \* Individuals interested in the furtherance of the program
- \* Delegate's home county

An average of \$1400 is required to finance each two-way exchange. \$700 of this amount is raised within the participating state. Inquiries should be directed to the State 4-H Club office.

## How Can One Participate in the IFYE Program?

There are three ways:

- \* By becoming a candidate, and if selected, go to a foreign country for four to six months.
- \* By becoming a host family. Make your application through your County Extension office.
- \* By contributing to the IFYE fund.





Dodo Griffiths, Wales, seated, left; Inger Hansen, Denmark, second from right; and Mrs. Adele Clark Sudlow, IFYE delegate to Sweden, seated, right; learn how to make glo-candles from crafts instructor Mrs. Alvilda Sorenson, at a Rural Youth camp. Looking on is Gloria Faye Truman, Miner county.



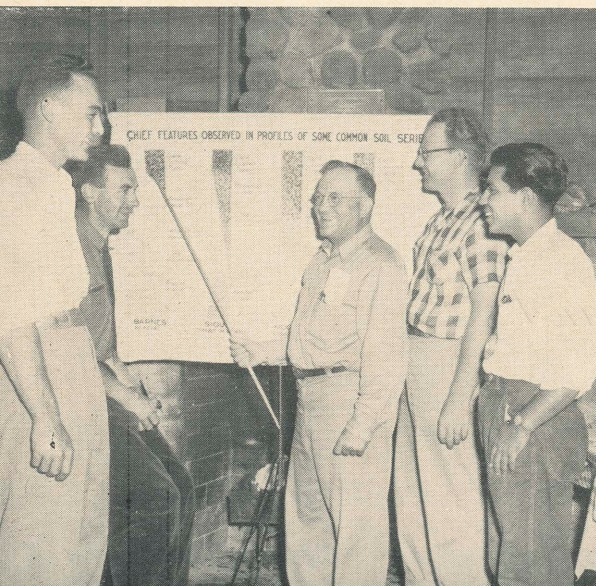
A new feature of home entertainment is interesting to Marie Jo Kinnen, Luxembourg. A guest in the Oliver Anderson home of Union county, Miss Kinnen and the Anderson children spent many hours watching television.

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include: Llano T  
Dean Sanderson,  
Clark Sudlow, Swe  
Mexico; Marvel  
Luxembourg; Gen  
Ireland; Ruth An  
Don Burkman, Fin  
Puerto Rico; and  
Portugal.

*--- And learn a way of life to*

Three IFYE delegates gain new information about soil structure in a class at a 4-H Conservation Camp. Antonio Amici, Argentina, left; Fred Hauser, Switzerland, second from left; and Vinay Kumar Singh, India, right, asked many questions of State College extension soil conservation specialists.



Working with a binder is a new machine operation for Fred Hauser, Switzerland, who lived on U. S. farms six months learning about U. S. farming, 4-H Clubs, Rural Youth clubs, farm organizations, etc.



Marie Jo Kinnen, Luxembourg, was fascinated with the electric dishwasher in one of the homes in which she visited. U. S. families found they learned from the IFYE delegates as well as they from us.



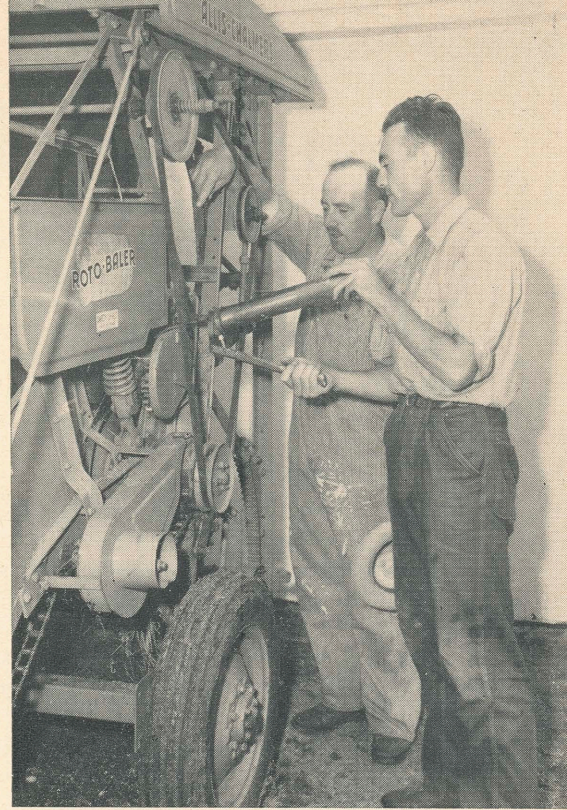


# They live and work with South Dakota farm families---

Ten South Dakota delegates have gone to foreign lands to learn a way of life and 15 exchangees have lived on our farms since 1949. Our delegates and the countries which they visited include: Llano Thelin, Switzerland; Dean Sanderson, Denmark; Adele Clark Sudlow, Sweden; Billy Hammer, Mexico; Marvel LaBrie, Belgium-Luxembourg; Geneva Sanford Foster, Ireland; Ruth Ann Oster, Australia; Don Burkman, Finland; Verne Larson, Puerto Rico; and Edward Kammerer, Portugal.

Exchangees who came to our state are: John Warwick, Ireland; Peter Gerber, Switzerland; Diny Kroes, The Netherlands; Jan Holmberg, Finland; Ludwig Wohlfahrt, Germany; Nils Dahlgren, Sweden; Bernard Bollette, Belgium; Vera "Dodo" Griffiths, Wales; Inger Hansen, Denmark; Mustafa Kemal Aytemur, Turkey; Mario Pablo Capitaine, Mexico; Marie Jo Kinnen, Luxembourg; Vinay Kumar Singh, India; Fred Hauser, Switzerland; and Antonio Amici, Argentina.

# life by living it!



Antonio Amici, Argentina, right, learns the techniques of operating a roto-baler from Wm. Mack of Codington county, where he lived a month and acquired new skills in farming.

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n one of the homes in  
amilies found they learned  
as well as they from us.

Taking part in American family living is one of the basic purposes of the IFYE project. Antonio Amici, Argentina, third from right, is readily accepted as a member of the Wm. Mack family of Codington county.

Farm chores were new experiences for this IFYE delegate from India. Vinay Kumar Singh knew much about American farm life before coming here but gained unforgettable experiences in his six month's visit.





# How IFYE Began

“What can we do to make certain it doesn’t happen again?” was a topic of conversation for young people whenever they gathered together at the close of World War II. Greatly concerned about the terrible suffering brought on by the war, they sent food and clothing abroad, adopted refugees.

But these young people decided something more was needed — a better understanding between rural people around the world. Since the family is the basis of all society, they decided they could best make a contribution to world peace by helping to further an understanding between rural people at the family level.

This wasn’t left in the talk stage, these rural young people went into action. They decided if young men and women from farms in the United States could live and work on farms in other countries, and if their counterparts abroad could learn the way of life here, on American farms, better understanding would result.

These young people, striving for world peace, took this inspiration to the Cooperative Extension Service. There, they were encouraged and received the support necessary to transform their idea into the International Farm Youth Exchange program.

The exchange became a reality late in 1947 when six young British farmers spent about three months in the United States living on farms of 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America members and participating in the national conventions of these groups.

In 1948, 17 U. S. delegates visited seven European countries and six exchangees came to America. From that modest beginning the exchange has grown until, with the completion of the 1953 exchange, 395 delegates from the United States have participated and 346 exchangees have come to the U. S. from foreign countries. Plans are underway for a considerable expansion into other countries.